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NEWS AND NOTES

Yale University has received from Mrs. Morris K. Jesup $100,000 to establish the Morris K. Jesup chair of agriculture in the Forestry School.

Georgia has appropriated $10,000 for educational work at farmers' institutes in the state.

A new agricultural college and research institute has been opened at Coimbatore in British India.

Benjamin F. Lutman (A.B. Missouri, 1906; Ph.D. Wisconsin, 1909), recently assistant in botany in the University of Wisconsin, has accepted a position as assistant botanist in the Vermont Experiment Station.

Dr. W. A. Murrill sailed for Mexico on December 2, to continue his studies of tropical American fungi. He was accompanied by Mrs. Murrill.

The new College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines, opened last June with a registration of about sixty. E. B. Copeland is dean and professor of botany; H. Cuzner is professor of agronomy.

The University of Wisconsin has created a new department of plant pathology, and has appointed as professor in charge Dr. Lewis Ralph Jones, of the University of Vermont. Professor Jones has been botanist of the Vermont Experiment Station since 1890. During this period he has carried on research work in the bureau of plant industry in Washington, and in Europe. In addition to gaining a high reputation as a teacher, he has occupied a field of wide service in Vermont in developing the work of the Vermont Botanical Club and the state forestry department, in securing for the University the Pringle Herbarium with Dr. Pringle as curator, and recently in organizing a new department of teaching. As a public-spirited citizen and as an instructor, he holds a secure position in the esteem and affection of the students and the people of the state. Professor Jones will remain in Burlington until January, and enter on the work of his new appointment at the beginning of the second semester.

In the *Botanical Gazette* for October, 1909, G. F. Atkinson describes and copiously illustrates a remarkable species of *Amanita* from California, collected and photographed by Mrs. V. G. Ballen. The name assigned, *A. calyptroderma,* refers to the fact that the calyptra of the volva fits like a skin over the center of the pileus.

A very helpful guide to Saccardo's "Sylloge Fungorum" has recently appeared under the title "Genera of Fungi," by Dr. F. E. Clements, published by the H. W. Wilson Co., Minneapolis, Minnesota. This work includes keys to the genera and larger groups found in Saccardo's work and also covers Rehm's "Discomyceten" and the lichens of Engler and Prantl's "Pflanzenfamilien."

A number of woody fungi collected by Professor S. Kusano in Formosa were recently sent in for determination and have been added to the Garden herbarium. The collection contains few novelties, most of the species having been received before, either from the Philippines or from Japan.

A description list of the hymenomycetes found in the vicinity of Chicago, by Dr. W. S. Moffatt, has recently been published as Bulletin no. 7, part 1, of the Natural History Survey of The Chicago Academy of Sciences. The pamphlet contains 156 pages of text and 24 plates. It not only lists the known species of the region, but also brings together in compact form descriptive notes on these species that have been scattered through many publications. Students and collectors in almost any region of the northern United States would find it helpful on this account.

Mr. H. C. Beardslee, of Asheville, North Carolina, contributes the following notes on *Boletus rubinellus* Peck:

"This species occurs quite regularly at Asheville, though always sparingly, and has been kept under observation for several years. As found here it is a very attractive little plant, answering well to Peck's description except that the spores are a little smaller than the dimensions given by him. In my plant, they measure 9–10 × 4 μ. It seems to be clearly distinct from *B. piperatus,* to which it has little resemblance, and distinct enough from *B. communis.* The question that I would raise concerning it is that of its relationship to *B. rubinus* Smith.

"The description given of Smith's plant does not apply in all points to our *Boletus. B. rubinus* is placed with the Subtomentosi, but this will surprise no one who has collected our plant. It has all the marks of that section and if collected in dry weather would be confidently referred to it, although it is viscid in wet weather. The spores of *B. rubinus* are said to be oval, almost round, 6 × 5 μ. This is not true of the American plant, but other points in the description strongly suggest it. Mr. Rea has kindly examined my specimens and photographs and is of the opinion that it is the same as Smith's species. It would seem that a careful comparison of these species should be made, especially with reference to their microscopic features. Personally, I do not believe the two species are distinct."

Several new species of gill-fungi and three new species of coral-fungi are described by Professor G. F. Atkinson in *Annales Mycologici* for August, 1909.

The thirteenth annual fungus foray of the British Mycological Society was held at Baslow, Derbyshire, England, from September 27 to October 2, 1909. The members collected during each day and met for the discussion of interesting specimens and the reading of papers in the evenings.

The fourth annual report of the Forest Park Reservation Commission of New Jersey, published in September, 1909, includes an illustrated article of twenty-four pages on the planting and care of shade trees, by Alfred Gaskill, forester; one of sixteen pages on insects injurious to shade trees, by John B. Smith, state entomologist; and one of twenty pages on the fungi of native and shade trees, by Byron D. Halsted, botanist of the State Experiment Station. These three articles probably constitute the most comprehensive and helpful publication on the care of American shade trees to be obtained anywhere.

Arrangements are being made to hold the first meeting of the American Phytopathological Society in connection with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Boston, Massachusetts, during Convocation Week, December 27, 1909, to January 1, 1910, at which time questions relating to the future policy of the Society and its relations to Section G of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will be definitely determined.

The biology of *Armillaria mucida* Schrad. is the subject of a paper by C. E. C. Fischer in the *Annals of Botany* for October, 1909. The fungus was artificially grown from spores, and several fruitless attempts were made to introduce it as a parasite into the beech tree, on which the sporophores are commonly found. Owners of beech forests are advised by the author to keep wounds on their trees covered with an antiseptic, and to destroy dead infected timber and young sporophores before they are able to shed spores.